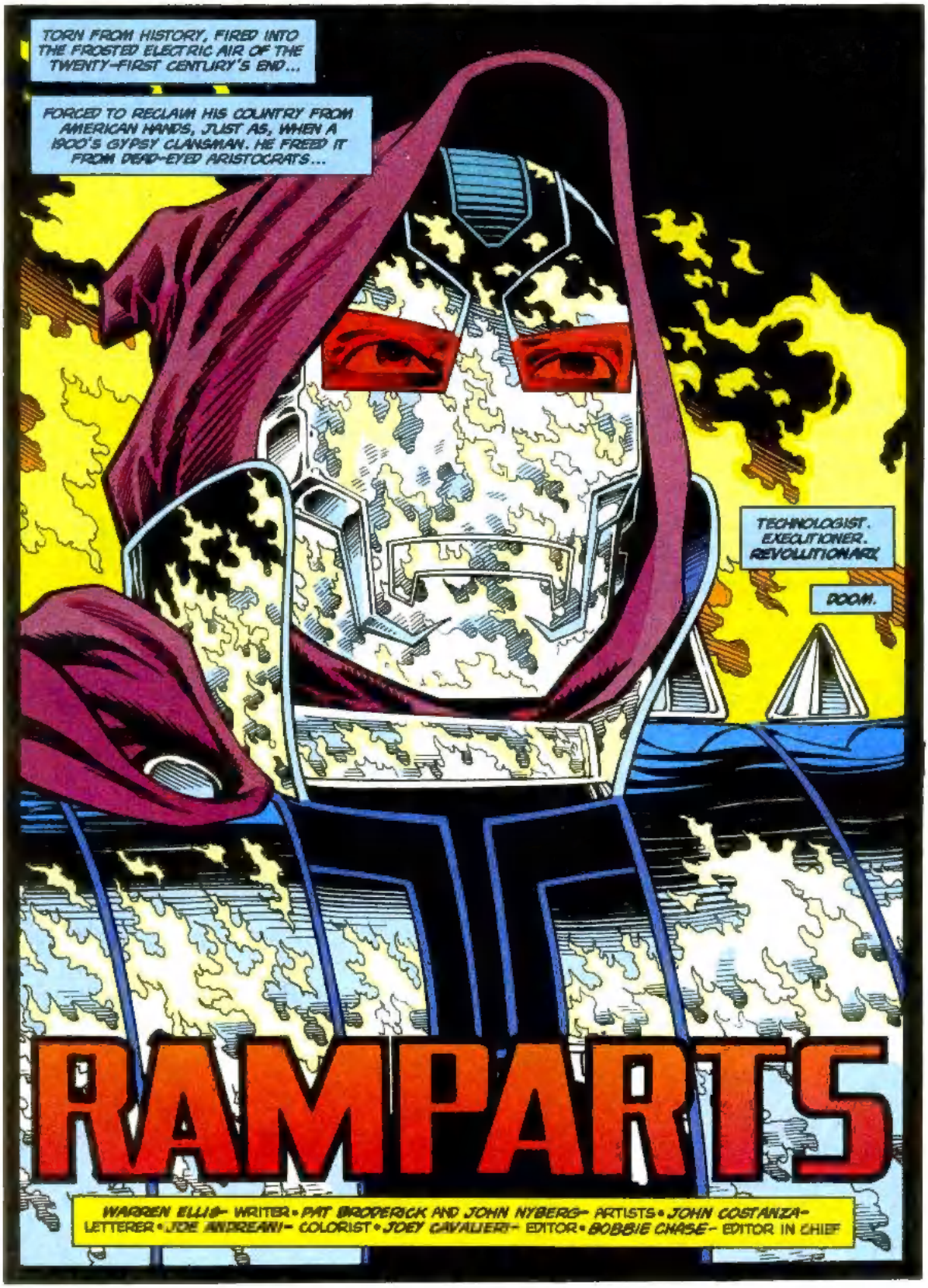
MARVEL
DOOM 2099
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
26 FEB
DIRECT EDITION
02611
$1.50 US $2.05 CAN
PAT BRODERICK 94

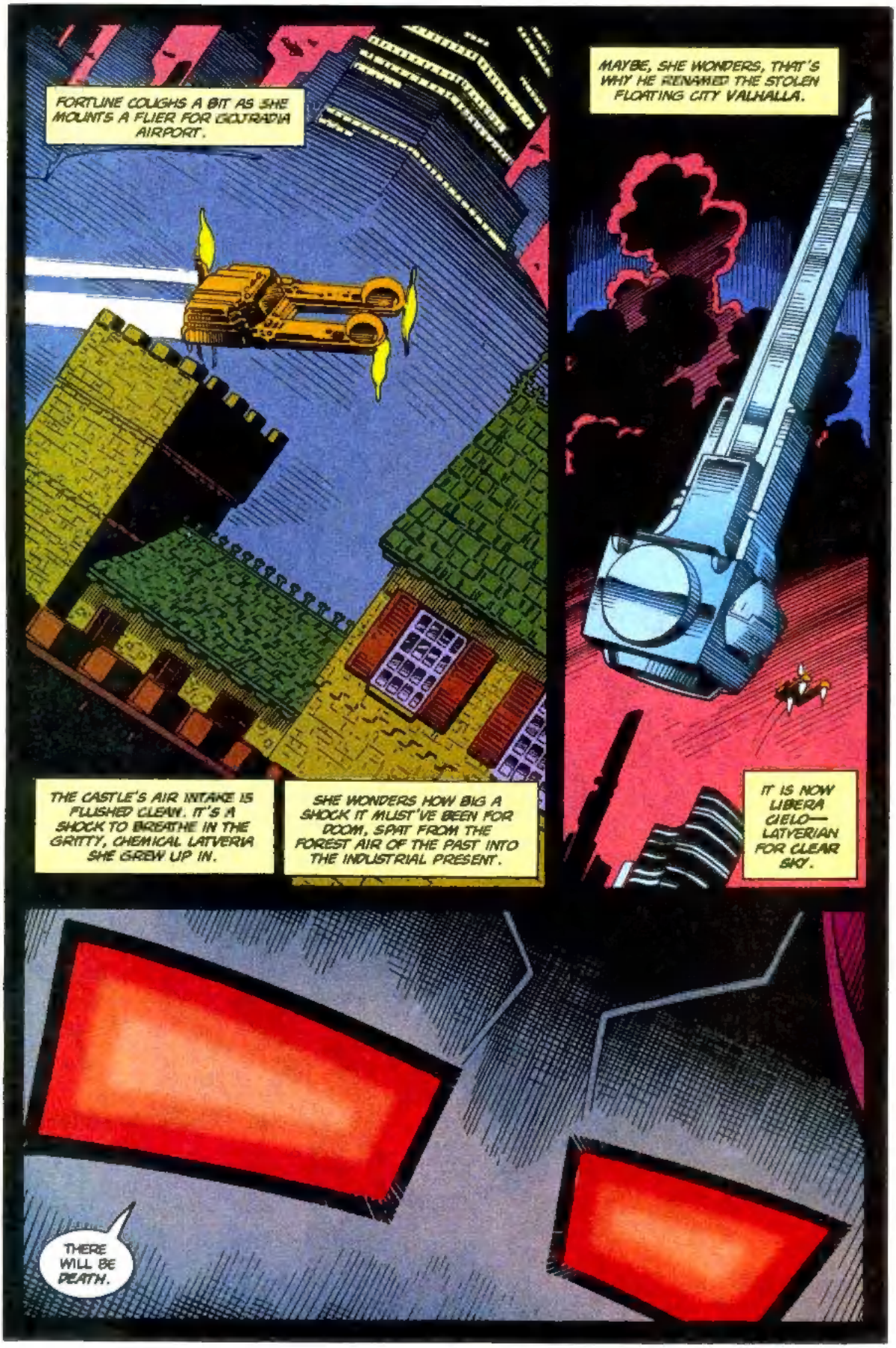

TORN FROM HISTORY, FIRED INTO THE FROSTED ELECTRIC AIR OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY'S END...
FORCED TO RECLAIM HIS COUNTRY FROM AMERICAN HANDS, JUST AS, WHEN A 1900'S GYPSY CLANSMAN, HE FREED IT FROM DEAD-EYED ARISTOCRATS...
TECHNOLOGIST. EXECUTIONER. REVOLUTIONARY.
DOOM.
RAMPARTS
WARREN ELLIS- WRITER • PAT BRODERICK AND JOHN NYBERG- ARTISTS • JOHN COSTANZA- LETTERER • JOE ANDREANI- COLORIST • JOEY CAVALIERI- EDITOR • BOBBIE CHASE- EDITOR IN CHIEF

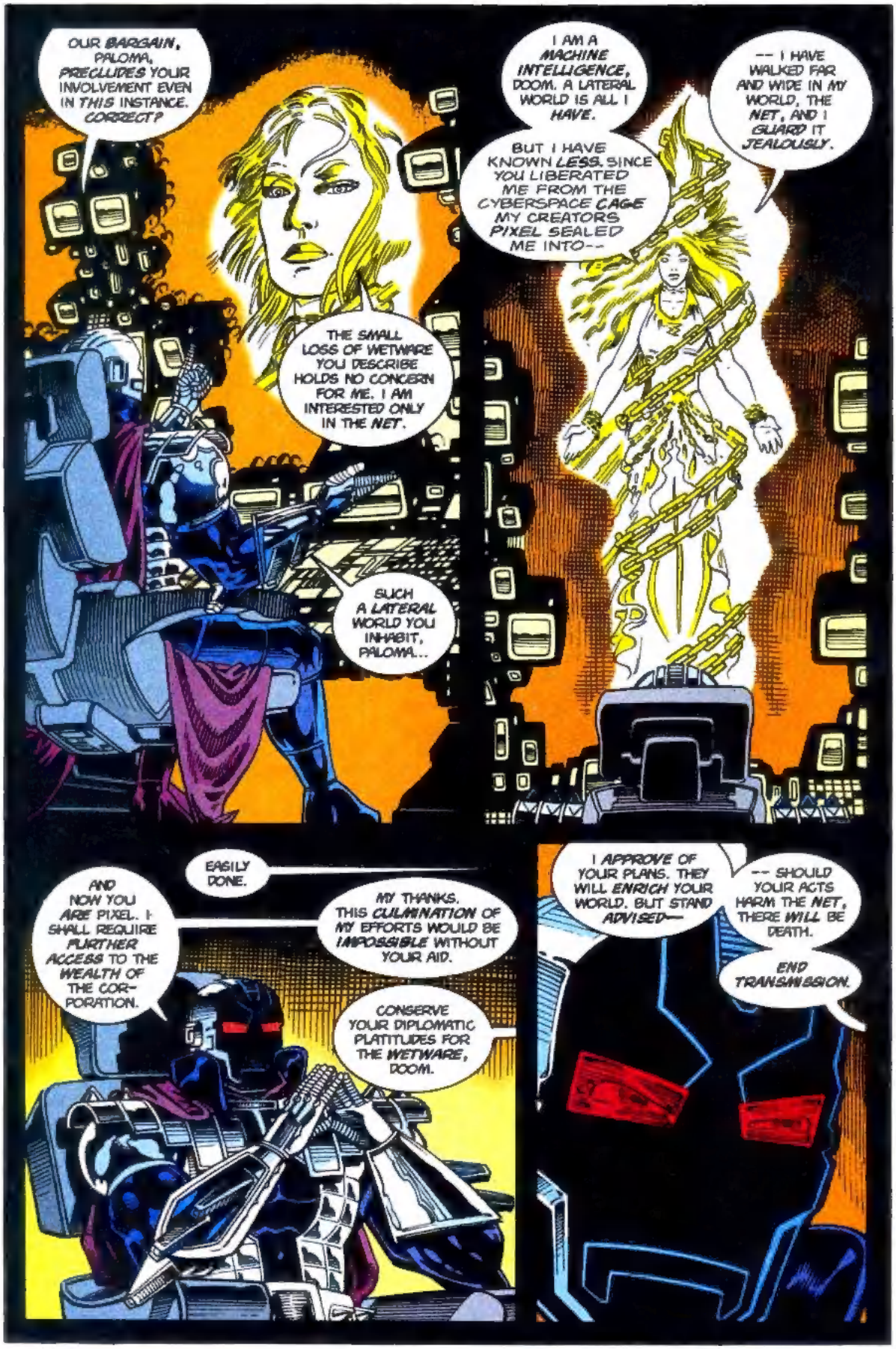
DOOM 2099 ™ Vol. 1, No. 33, February, 1996. (ISSN # 1068-8463) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.05 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $18.00 U.S.; $30.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST GST # R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DOOM 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DOOM 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING INC./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 1978, DANBURY, CT 06813-1978. TELEPHONE # (800) 759-0320. PRINTED IN USA.

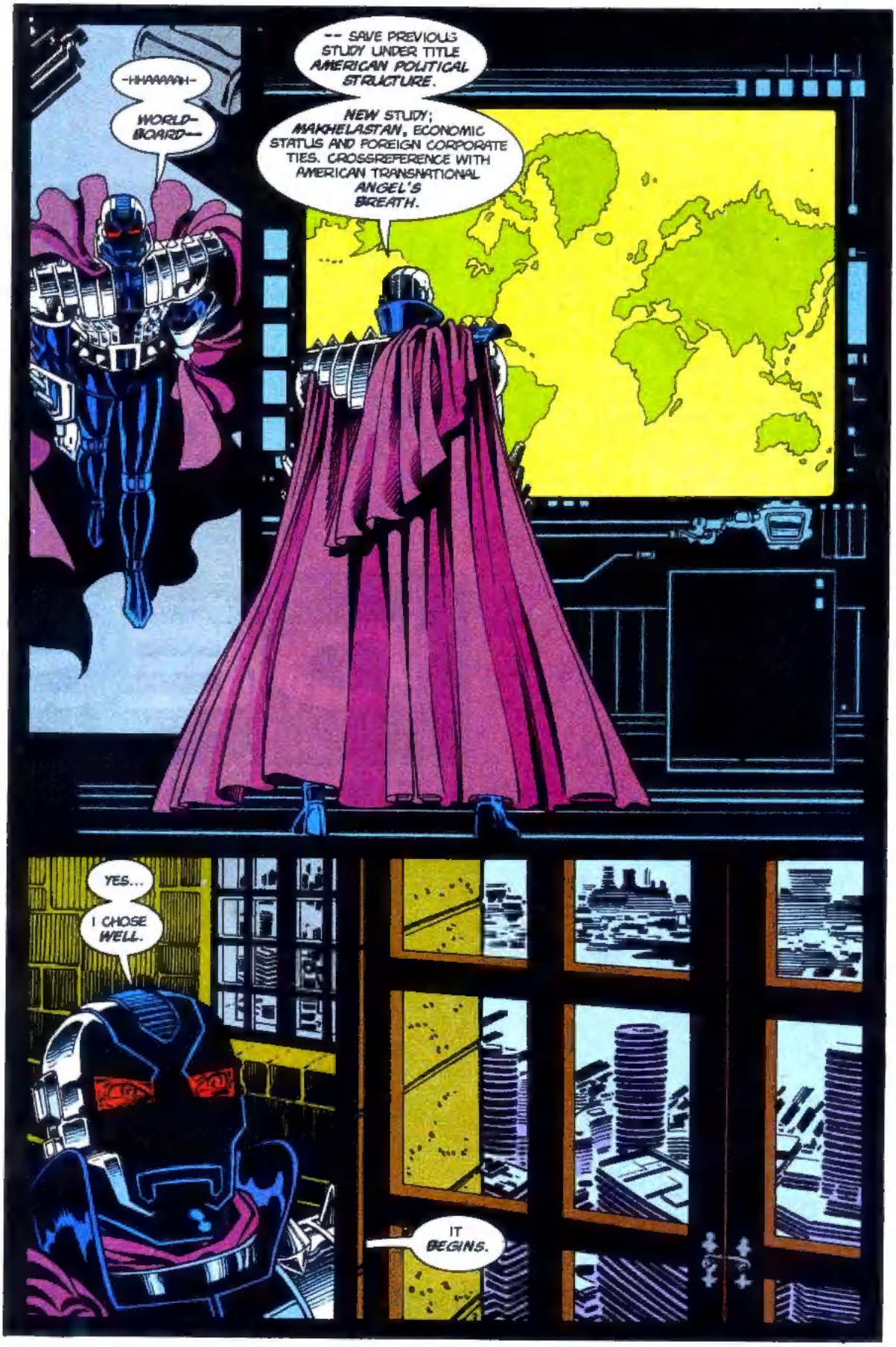
Scanned by Tato

THE TINY CENTRAL EUROPEAN STATE OF LATVERIA;
INDEPENDENT FROM THE HUNGRY MORASS OF WORLD CORPORATIONS, SHIELDED BY A MOUNTAIN RANGE AND DOOM.
CASTLE DOOM STRADDLES THE DIVIDE BETWEEN THE LATVERIA OF HIS HEART, ANTIKVA VILLAGE, AND OF HIS MIND, STEELY GOJRADIA CITY.
HERE, FORTUNE SLEEPS UNCOMFORTABLY.
SHE'S A GYPSY DAUGHTER, TAROT-ORACLE TO THE ZEFIRO CLAN THAT ONCE BORE DOOM HIMSELF.
NOW, AS ADVISOR TO DOOM, SHE INEVITABLY HAS TO SPEND SOME NIGHTS SLEEPING UNDER STONE.
IT FEELS VERY WRONG.
DZ:::
DZ:::
WHAT.
-CRITZ-
FORTUNE!
EITHER YOU OR YOUR LOUSY TIN WOODCUTTER BETTER GET THEIR TUCHIS OVER HERE NOW!

IRONWINE? -YAWN- WHAT'S JUMPED UP YOUR BUTT AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
DON'T YOU TALK TO ME LIKE THAT, YOU NAFKEH! DON'T YOU DARE!
I WANT YOU OVER AT MY AIRPORT THIS MINUTE! HOW DARE YOU DO THIS TO ME, YOU--
SORRY. YOU WOKE ME. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT "YOUR AIRPORT"?
THIS BUNCHA FREAKS JUST CAME IN ON AN UNSCHEDULED COWBOY PASSENGE FLIGHT FROM THE UKRAINE--
-- AND THEY'VE ALL GOT ELECTRONIC CREDENTIALS SUPPOSEDLY SUPPLIED BY DOOM!
OH, LORD... HAVE YOU RUN THEM THROUGH VERIFICATION?
IS THIS THE FACE OF AN IDIOT YOU SEE? OF COURSE!
VF SAYS THEY'RE CLEAN! OPEN-ENDED VISAS! SECURITY ACCESS TO THE CASTLE! NET CLEARANCES!
I'M ON MY WAY. I WANT THEM AT GUNPOINT TILL I ARRIVE.
IS THIS THE FACE OF AN IDIOT? HURRY. -CRITZ-


FORTUNE COUGHS A BIT AS SHE MOUNTS A FLIER FOR GOTHAM AIRPORT.
MAYBE, SHE WONDERS, THAT'S WHY HE RENAMED THE STOLEN FLOATING CITY VALHALLA.
THE CASTLE'S AIR INTAKE IS FLUSHED CLEAN. IT'S A SHOCK TO BREATHE IN THE GRITTY, CHEMICAL LATVERIA SHE GREW UP IN.
SHE WONDERS HOW BIG A SHOCK IT MUST'VE BEEN FOR DOOM, SPAT FROM THE FOREST AIR OF THE PAST INTO THE INDUSTRIAL PRESENT.
IT IS NOW LIBERA CIELO— LATVERIAN FOR CLEAR SKY.
THERE WILL BE DEATH.

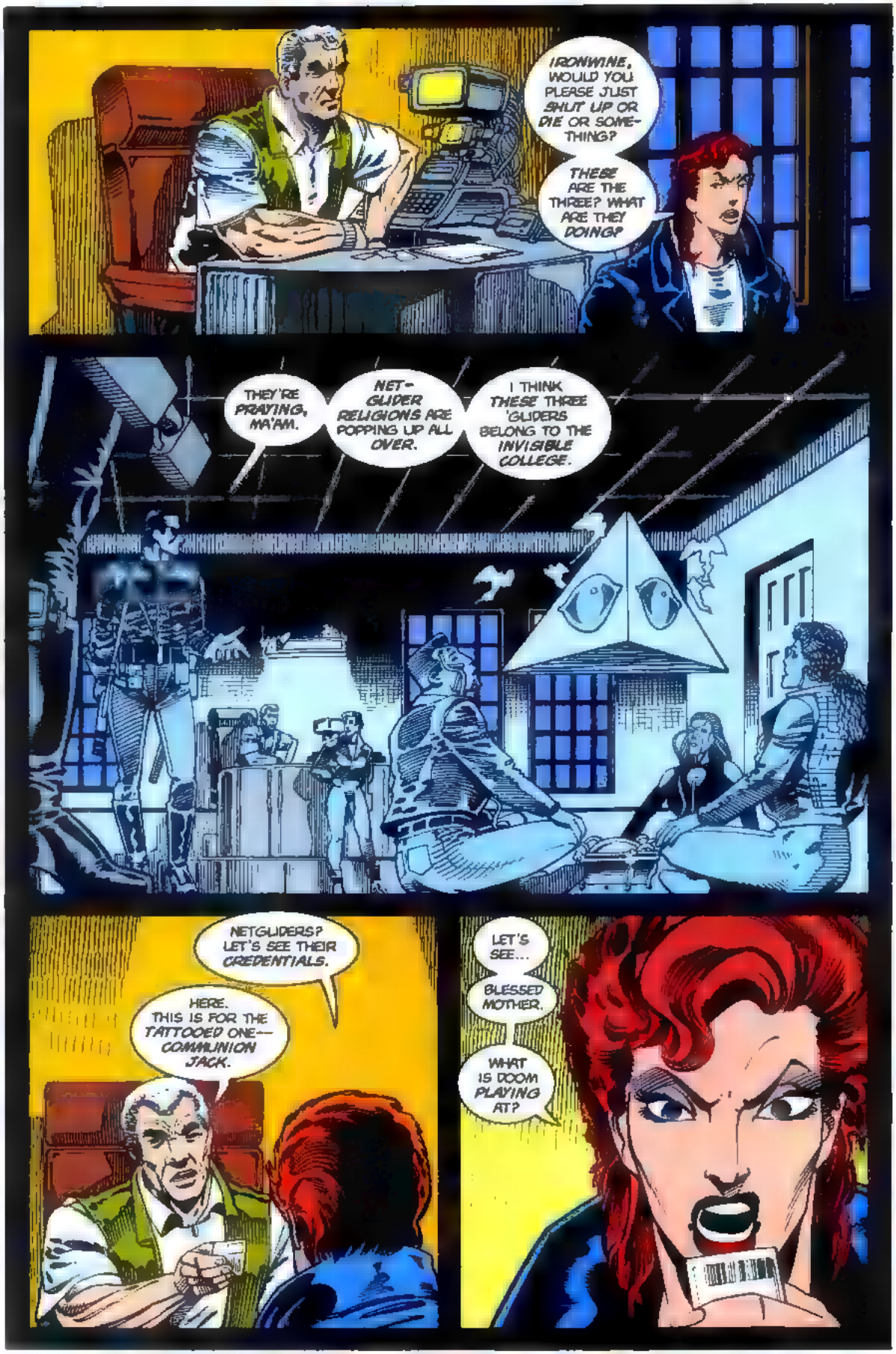

OUR BARGAIN, PALOMA, PRECLUDES YOUR INVOLVEMENT EVEN IN THIS INSTANCE. CORRECT?
THE SMALL LOSS OF WETWARE YOU DESCRIBE HOLDS NO CONCERN FOR ME. I AM INTERESTED ONLY IN THE NET.
SUCH A LATERAL WORLD YOU INHABIT, PALOMA...
I AM A MACHINE INTELLIGENCE, DOOM. A LATERAL WORLD IS ALL I HAVE.
BUT I HAVE KNOWN LESS. SINCE YOU LIBERATED ME FROM THE CYBERSPACE CAGE MY CREATORS PIXEL SEALED ME INTO--
-- I HAVE WALKED FAR AND WIDE IN MY WORLD, THE NET, AND I GUARD IT JEALOUSLY.
EASILY DONE.
AND NOW YOU ARE PIXEL. I SHALL REQUIRE FURTHER ACCESS TO THE WEALTH OF THE COR-PORATION.
MY THANKS. THIS CULMINATION OF MY EFFORTS WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR AID.
CONSERVE YOUR DIPLOMATIC PLATITUDES FOR THE WETWARE, DOOM.
I APPROVE OF YOUR PLANS. THEY WILL ENRICH YOUR WORLD. BUT STAND ADVISED—
-- SHOULD YOUR ACTS HARM THE NET, THERE WILL BE DEATH.
END TRANSMISSION.


-HHAAAAH-
WORLD-BOARD—
-- SAVE PREVIOUS STUDY UNDER TITLE AMERICAN POLITICAL STRUCTURE.
NEW STUDY; MAKHELASTAN, ECONOMIC STATUS AND FOREIGN CORPORATE TIES. CROSSREFERENCE WITH AMERICAN TRANSNATIONAL ANGEL'S BREATH.
YES... I CHOSE WELL.
IT BEGINS.

IF YOU'RE A LATVERIAN ON THE DISENFRANCHISED SIDE OF LIFE, IT ENDS HERE; THE RIVERFRONT.
UNDER THE PREVIOUS LATVERIAN REGIME, MURDEROUS GUARDSMEN REGULARLY SWEPT THE 'FRONT UP AND DROPPED THE BODIES IN THE RIVER GIRI.
UNDER DOOM, WITH THE GUARDSMEN AN IMPOTENT POLICE FORCE, THE HUMAN SLURRY AT THE 'FRONT HAS PILED HIGH.
SUIT TYPES CHEWED UP BY THE SYSTEM, WORKING GIRLS TOO OLD OR RAVAGED TO MAKE THE RENT, FRIENDLESS JUNKIES WITH A HEAD FULL OF COLLAPSED VEINS...
THEY'RE ALL HERE, WAITING BY THE POISON RIVER.
TAKE PARIO HERE. HIS PARENTS KNEW WHAT WAS COMING. PARIO IS LATVERIAN FOR PARIAH.
PARIO IS BANGING CHAIN THROUGH HIS SKIN; PROBABLY THE CHEAPEST AND NASTIEST SYNTHETIC DRUG IN THE WORLD TODAY.
PARIO IS IN LOVE WITH CHAIN.
DON'T GET HIGH ON YOUR OWN SUPPLY, SON.

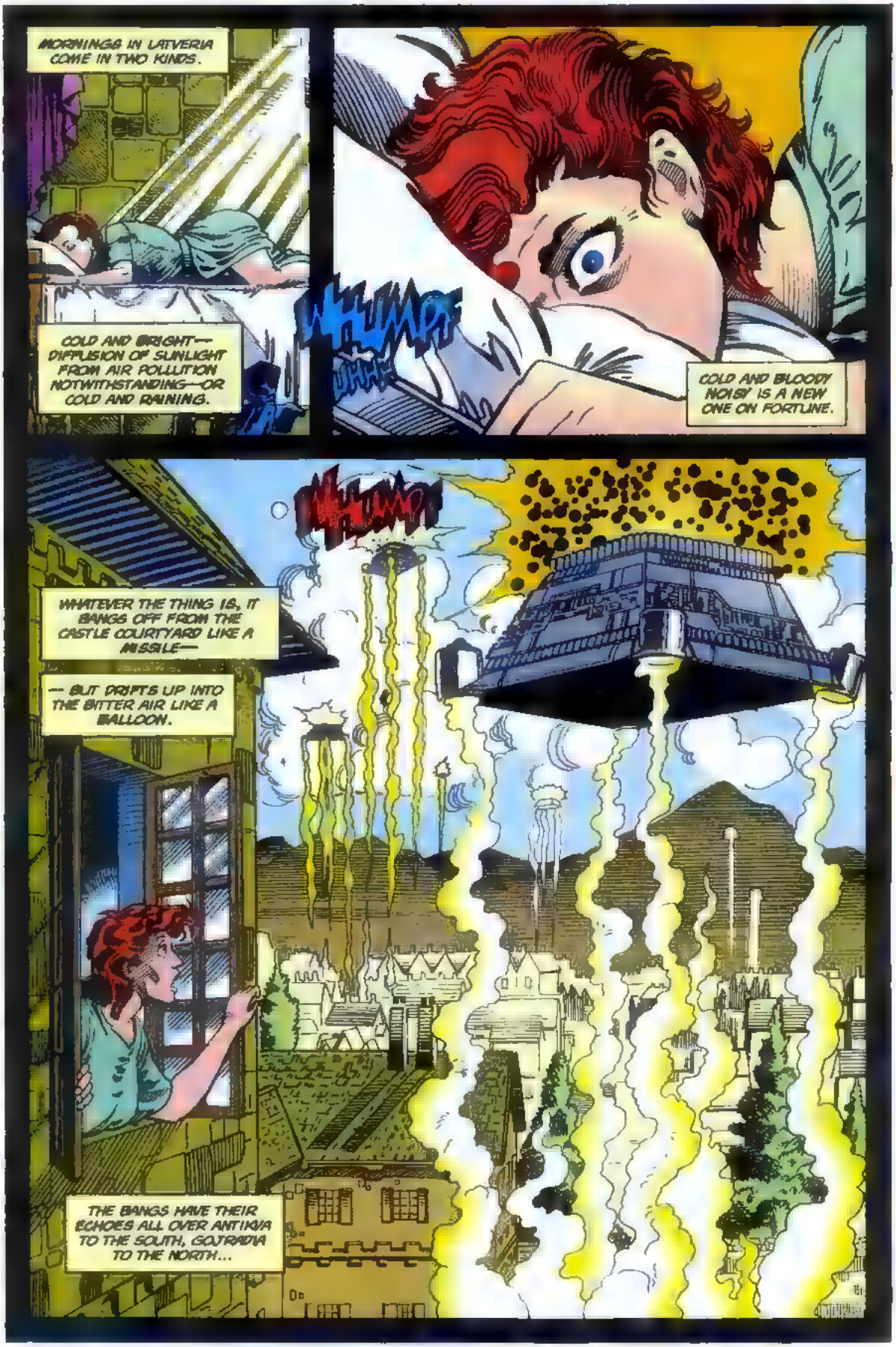
UH...? OH. OH, MAJICK, HOW Y'DOING...?
NOT WELL, MY SMALL STONED FRIEND. SOME SCABLICKER ON THIS RIVERFRONT IS CUTTING INTO MY TRADE.
MY ASSOCIATE, LOSS, WOULD REALLY LIKE TO MEET THE ONE WHO THINKS THAT HE, TOO, CAN DEAL CHAIN HERE.
WELL, HEY, THAT GUY'D HAVE TO BE CRAZY, RIGHT?
OH, YES.
I'LL ASK AROUND FOR YOU. WE'LL GET THIS GUY, RIGHT?
EEEEEE
OH, YES.
WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED BURNING OFF HIS FACE AND OTHER IDENTIFIABLE AREAS, LOSS, TOSS HIM IN THE CIRI.
SILLY, REALLY. HE MADE THE OBVIOUS MISTAKE-- WHEN HE STARTED USING HIS OWN SALES STOCK, HE STOPPED BUYING HIS FIX FROM ME.
HEH. HE'S FLYING HIGH AS IT GETS NOW.

OH, YES.
HE'S FLYING NOW.
THE CARGO JET POWERS DOWN, LOCKS INTO THE SPIDER WEB OF COMPUTERIZED DESCENT CONTROL AT GOJRADIA INTERNATIONAL, LATVERIA'S SINGLE AIRPORT.
LOCALLY, IT'S KNOWN AS STRIP THREE; THE OTHER TWO AIRPORTS HAD SHORT AND VIOLENTLY-CONCLUDED WORKING LIVES.
STRIP THREE HAS BEEN RUN FOR THE LAST TWENTY YEARS BY KEN IRONWINE.
THE THING ABOUT KEN IRONWINE IS THAT NOBODY LIKES HIM.
BUT EVERYBODY LISTENS TO HIM.
GET THESE FILTHY WIRETFACED BOTTOMFEEDING SOAPDODGING FREAKS THE @#&!!! OFF MY AIRPORT--


IRONWINE, WOULD YOU PLEASE JUST SHUT UP OR DIE OR SOMETHING?
THESE ARE THE THREE? WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
THEY'RE PRAYING, MA'AM.
NET-GLIDER RELIGIONS ARE POPPING UP ALL OVER.
I THINK THESE THREE 'GLIDERS BELONG TO THE INVISIBLE COLLEGE.
NETGLIDERS? LET'S SEE THEIR CREDENTIALS.
HERE. THIS IS FOR THE TATTOOED ONE— COMMUNION JACK.
LET'S SEE...
BLESSED MOTHER.
WHAT IS DOOM PLAYING AT?

THESE PEOPLE'S CREDENTIALS ARE IN ORDER. SUPPLIED BY DOOM HIMSELF.
GET THEM TRANSPORT TO THE CASTLE. THEY STAY THERE BEFORE TRANSFERRING TO LIBERA CIELO.
I'M GOING BACK TO BED.
NETGLIDERS. ROGUE CYBERSPACE JOCKEYS, SURFING THE SIGNAL-TO-NOISE CLAMOR OF THE ELECTRONIC WORLD.
HOW, FORTUNE WONDERS, DID DOOM FIND THEM? WHAT DOES HE WANT FROM THEM?
WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE MOTHER IS DOOM PLAYING AT?
-- MAKHELASTAN ERUPTS INTO REBELLION WITHIN HOURS OF A CURRENCY CRASH. ALSO IN THIS NEWS HOUR, FOOTAGE OF THE "HULK" FROM CALIFORNIA--
-- MALVAIS? EST-IL UNE GUERRE DE LA LIBERATION DANS MAKHELASTAN? MAIS--
-- MAKHELASTAN, SEPARATED FROM THE VOLATILE STATE OF LATVERIA BY THE MAHELA MOUNTAINS. COULD THIS SEEMING REVOLUTION HAVE ITS ROOTS IN--

CASTLE DOOM.
AT LAST.
OH, FOR A TENT OR A CARAVAN, OR A DISTANCE OF AT LEAST A HUNDRED MILES BETWEEN ME AND THAT MAN...
THE TEN OF SWORDS. LOVING TO OVERTHROW THE HAPPINESS OF OTHERS.
THE FIVE OF WANDS. STRIFE. FIGHTING.
THE AMBITION. CONQUEST.
FORTUNE KNOWS THIS WAS AN ACCIDENT. SHE JUST KNOCKED THEM OVER, IS ALL.
SHE CAN'T HELP BUT PUT THE THREE CARDS TOGETHER INTO ONE INEXORABLE DIVINATION;
WAR.


MORNINGS IN LATVERIA COME IN TWO KINDS.
COLD AND BRIGHT— DIFFUSION OF SUNLIGHT FROM AIR POLLUTION NOTWITHSTANDING—OR COLD AND RAINING.
WHUMP
COLD AND BLOODY NOISY IS A NEW ONE ON FORTUNE.
WHUMP
WHATEVER THE THING IS, IT BANGS OFF FROM THE CASTLE COURTYARD LIKE A MISSILE—
— BUT DRIFTS UP INTO THE BITTER AIR LIKE A BALLOON.
THE BANGS HAVE THEIR ECHOES ALL OVER ANTIKVA TO THE SOUTH, GOJRADVA TO THE NORTH...

THERE NOW FOLLOWS, ON ALL CHANNELS, A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM CASTLE DOOM.
THE DAMAGED WORLD OUTSIDE OUR BORDERS SQUANDERS THE MIRACLES OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE THIS AGE HAS TO OFFER.
LATVERIA DOES NOT. DOOM DOES NOT.
PUBLIKA SERVO ANONCO
THIS MORNING, I HAVE HURLED A NETWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE PLATFORMS INTO OUR SKIES.
THESE DEVICES SHALL SCOUR OUR AIR CLEAN OF POLLUTION, BUFFER THE LOCAL OZONE LAYER, AND MODULATE OUR CLIMATE.
VARIANT DEVICES SHALL BE LAUNCHED INTO THE GIRI, AND TO FIRE LAKE.
I GIVE YOU A NEW LATVERIA, A COUNTRY OF CLEAN AIR, CLEAR WATERS, AND FINE RAINS. A STRONG COUNTRY.

DOOM! WAIT UP A SECOND!
GOOD MORNING, FORTUNE. DID YOU SEE THE LAUNCHING?
WE SPOKE, ONCE, OF THE MAGICAL QUALITY OF THE AIR OF MY YOUTH. IT PLEASES ME THAT YOU, TOO, SHALL SOON KNOW ITS TASTE.
WONDERFUL. LISTEN, WE NEED TO TALK—
-- ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE WITH YOU.
YES. PLEASE INFORM [redacted]. IRONWINE THAT FURTHER INDIVIDUALS BEARING MY SEAL WILL [redacted] ARRIVING SOON—
-- [redacted] THAT THEY ARE NOT TO [redacted] GREETED WITH GUNS AND CURSES.
[redacted] SHALL [redacted] IN CONFERENCE [redacted] LIBERA CIELO FOR SOME TIME, AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTURBED.
IN MY ABSENCE, YOU SHALL ATTEND TO THE MOST PRESSING MATTERS OF STATE.
IN WHICH REGARD, I BELIEVE THERE IS AN OFFICER OF THE GUARD AWAITING YOU IN THE COURT ANTECHAMBER.
FORTUNE! HOW GOES?
FORTUNE?
DON'T ASK.

POET, THIS IS KOMONDANTO JOSEF APLISTO, CHIEF OF THE GUARD— AS YOU KNOW, THE CLOSEST THING WE HAVE TO POLICE.
SO YOU WERE TIGER WYLDE'S STRONG ARM, BACK IN THE OLD DAYS?
NO. I WAS A COURT-MARTIALLED GUARD CAPTAIN, IN PRISON FOR DISSENT.
I DON'T WISH FOR THE OLD DAYS, FORTUNE. YOU KNOW THAT.
BUT EVERYONE WAS IN HOUSING OR DEAD, AND THE DRUGS TRADE WAS UNDER CONTROL.
LOOK AT THAT.
THE CORPSE WAS FULL OF CHAIN; SO CHEAP AND EASY A DRUG THAT YOU COULD MIX IT IN YOUR BATHTUB.
SHOT WITH A SHOCKPLUNGER; SO EXPENSIVE AND FLASHY A GUN THAT IT APPEALS TO THE TASTE OF DRUGLORDS EVERYWHERE.
TODAY'S STIFF IS THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. THE RIVERFRONT IS ALIVE WITH SCUM, I SMELL DRUG WAR AROUND THE CORNER--
-- THERE ARE THOUSANDS LIVING IN GOTRADIA'S SEWER SYSTEM... AND THEY DUMP THEIR DEAD ON THE STREET NEXT TO MAN-HOLES...
THAT'LL BE ALL. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.

CHAIN.
CHAIN. THERE'S CHAIN IN LATVERIA.
POET? YOU OKAY?
SO?
D'YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT CHAIN? NO? I DO.
IT'S A CHEAP, DIRTY SIMULACRUM OF DMT, A PSYCHEDELIC THAT BONDS DIRECTLY INTO SPECIFIC SITES OF THE BRAIN.
CHAIN IS ADDICTIVE NIGHT-MARES.
I SPENT THREE YEARS ON CHAIN AND BAD RICE. CAUGHT DERMATITIS FROM SLEEPING ON THE CORPSE OF ANOTHER DEAD JUNKIE.
BLESSED MOTHER. I NEVER KNEW.
NEVER ASKED.
HOW OLD WERE YOU?
I KICKED WHEN I WAS FOURTEEN.
A KIND LADY PICKED ME UP AND TOOK ME EAST, TO A MONASTERY THAT RAN A CURE SYSTEM FOR OCCIDENTALS.
IT STARTS BY DRINKING A BOWL FULL OF NICOTINE AND WATER.
YOU THROW UP FOR FIVE HOURS. IT GETS WORSE FROM THERE.
THE CURE TAKES TEN YEARS OFF YOUR LIFE EXPECTANCY.

MARVEL COMICS

BULLPEN BULLETINS

ITEM! Say goodbye to Frank Castle! PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #75 features Frank's replacement — Lynn Michaels, the butt-kickin' lady Punisher, who is hot on the trail of Frank's War Journal. But Lynn's the only one who the journal — a host of guys are in search of it, too, including: the Trust, Terminal, V.I.G.I.L. Heathen!

Don Daley raved this issue, starting **Mark Texeira** painting which an homage **Mike Zeck** cover from the first PUNISHER limited series. Don promised, "The cover leaves no doubt that this is a female Punisher. Little boys will out of control!"

Don feels WAR JOURNAL #75 offers something for everyone. "Everyone who to like the Punisher is going to this issue. And people who never liked Punisher gonna like this issue!" The creative team for PUNISHER JOURNAL is writer **Steven Grant** and **Hugh Haynes.**

Don concluded by noting that there has never been a better to climb aboard the Punisher's wagon. "A lot of big stuff is coming down!"

ITEM! It's a fight to finish between Thor Loki in this month's issue of THOR — this time, Loki wants to this sibling rivalry for good!

The action kicks off in the of THOR , on next week, when Thor pays a visit Loki's castle, on a quest to find out the truth about his former alter ego, Don Blake. It turns out Loki the wrong guy to ask, but since Thor doesn't visit very often, the God Evil to this opportunity revenge his half-brother! (You'll never guess which mystery villain is really responsible for Don Blake imposter!)

Roy promised that mystery of Don Blake will for all in THOR . Roy summed up issue as follows: "There's a big battle with Loki in his new battle ... the final secret of Blake ... and end!" The artist THOR #483 is **C. Wyman.**

ITEM! Bloodaxe fans are for a treat as the popular vigilante leaps into solo action against of Thor's deadliest foes in THUNDERSTRIKE #17! The foe in question is the Egyptian God of Death, Seth, who has been plotting behind for some time now. Seth has

himself on Earth, is gathering weapons death and destruction, so that he can bring untold suffering upon us mere mortals! Penciler/co-plotter **Ron Frenz** that is truly a god with. "In story, we establish the , gets his head handed him in the fight, and he to Eric to for help in beating this guy!"

Ron that THUNDERSTRIKE #17 "" into one of the more offbeat team-ups of the year" in the next issue, as Eric and Bloodaxe to Seth! The team-up, Ron, "allows us to crystalize differences similarities Thun- and Bloodaxe, in preparation for that is to come." That storyline, which until Issue #25, will culminate in long-awaited of Bloodaxe's true identity!

Writer **Tom** guaranteed plenty of action! "Ron and I pulled out the stops this one. It's not the usual quiet, slow-paced, subdued material people have to expect from us!" The for THUNDERis **Milgrom.**

COMING NEXT WEEK

- **FASHION** A fairy tale wedding with a prince and princess! By Slate/Rausch & Wilshire/Tanghal!
- **HUNTER #6:** Blade needs help from **Morbius!** By Edginton/Wheatley/
- : A point the Quintano! By Hama/Martinez/LaRosa!
- **DR. STRANGE** Strange times Stevens vs. Strange Dr. Strange! Quinn/Yeowell!
- : Someone is resurrected! Is it who you think? By DeFalco/Ryan/Bulanadi!
- Tony Anonymous party on Year's By Kaminski/Morgan!
- **NEW** It's war in , and one won't coming back! By Skolnick/Pace/Patterson!
- **NIGHTWATCH #11:** watches Nightwatch? A mystery villain, that's who! By Kavanagh/Burdine!
- **TO THE AVENGERS #5** It's Avenger-ific! By Ward!
- 4: The quest for (the , of course!). By Vess Lee/Ridgway!
- **2099 #25:** Jake goes kill-crazy a tech spell! By Skinner/Coleby!
- **#101:** Surf his Shalla of a shocking By Marz/Phillips/
- **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN :** vs. — wins. deal By
- **SPIDER-MAN TURES** the Saturday Morning Spider Slayer! By Yomtov/Sayuki!
- **SPIDER-MAN: THE POWER OF TERROR: Silvermane** is killing everyone! By Wright/Robertson!
- **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #8:** Spidey & the facials super-terrorist! By Lyle/Lim/ Palmer!
- **THOR** to kill ! Talk sibling rivalry! By Thomas/Wyman!
- **#17:** Thundy's foe is , it's not ! By Milgrom!
- **SEPARATION #** Eddie teams with symbiotes! By / DeLaRosa!
- **THE** Someone is toying with the who? By Clark/Vey &

"BUT AT LEAST YOU HAVE A LIFE EXPECTANCY.
THE STRETCHING DEAD BODY
"THE THINGS I SAW BEFORE I WENT TO THE MONASTERY, FORTUNE...
"... A MOTHER SHOOTING CHAIN THROUGH THE EYE OF HER TEENAGED DAUGHTER, SO THE GIRL'D BE TOO DEPENDENT ON HER TO EVER LEAVE HOME...
"... THE DAUGHTER GOING ON THE [illegible], GETTING [illegible] GETTING EVEN [illegible] HER [illegible] WITH CHAIN...
"... A CUSTOMER BEING THE GUY WHO PUSHED CHAIN ON THE OTHER IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND HE UPS HIS SELLING PRICE TO HER..."
"I'VE BEEN KILLING CHAIN DEALERS SINCE BEFORE I STARTED SHAVING.
"TELL YOUR COMMANDER TO BE AT THE RIVERFRONT AT THREE A.M."
STAY PUT AND IT COMES PAIN-LESS.

FORTUNE, PLEASE... WE WERE ONE MINUTE LATE...
ONE MINUTE.
"Time and Love have marked her with her claws, and cruelly taught her that every instant, every kiss, steal something of youth and freshness."
—Charles Baudelaire

VOICES OF DOOM

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
LIA PELOSI
ASSISTANT EDITOR

C/O MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016

ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME & ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

Out Of My Head

WHY EVERYTHING SUCKS

Everything sucks because, when you're young and an outsider, you realize everything sucks but no one'll let you into a position to change things 'cause they don't trust you. So they only let you do sucky things with no money or time to do 'em and of course, they suck. If you don't complain, eventually you get into a position to keep things from sucking. But by then, you have other responsibilities besides keeping things from sucking. You become a part of the system that has kept making things that suck because they don't have the time or money to do 'em right, either. You understand why things are the way they are.

Then the worst thing happens. You have a vested interest in keeping them the way they are. You begin to make decisions based on those other responsibilities. Like money. You resent when other people don't have to make decisions based on money. You blame your friends for their own inability to get into a position of trust, the way you *did*. You resent them for not joining the system the way you did, but you resent those people who try to make change, and try to keep them from changing things, and that's why everything sucks.

Dear *Voices of Doom*,

You made me write. After years of comic collecting, after seeing quite a few good stories and innumerable bad ones, DOOM 2099 demanded a response from me. Month after month, you absolutely refuse to fall back on cliche, have a meaningless brawl, introduce dull, pointless, one-shot characters or use any of the multitude of vices infesting modern comics. Month after month, you give the reader a great story. This highest praise belongs to you.

Strength tempered by wisdom, logic tempered by honor, pure and simple majesty. Perhaps the greatest hero/villain the Marvel Universe ever created. This new installment in the annals of Doom is long overdue but apparently more than well worth the wait. You've done an excellent job of exploring the weaknesses without compromising the essence of his character. Doom is peerless.

I've never had so many guesses floating around in my noggin. I've just finished reading issue #21. The Shadow King? THE SHADOW KING? Oh no, not him! Are you doing this just to keep me awake at night or what? Wait a minute, this is the real Victor Von Doom. Somehow when he traveled through time he was given these memory implants to cause insecurity in himself. Is Reed Richards going to show up? I hope not, unless of course... what if it's not the real Von Doom? Did the Shadow King take control of Doom's body while he was time-travelling and even now watches from that island citadel? Wait, no. If this is the Shadow King's doing (Am I taking the cover too seriously?), then the whole 2099 Universe could be an elaborate hoax! A major, repeat, major change in the 2099 Universe? By Odin's bristling beard, say it ain't so! Next issue? Doom's fiercest enemy? The Beyonder maybe? Four more issues until the truth? A month seems awfully long tonight. How will I ever get to sleep?

Karl Knight
88 Casterton Ave.
Akron, OH 44303

By not taking that cover too seriously.

Dear Doom Spuds,

I thought you guys were just a bunch o' bitheads, 'cuz lately DOOM 2099 was goin' downramp the crater; but issue #21 had me yellin', "holy glitch" all the way home. I'm still feelin' rather skeltered about our shadowed pusbag on the last page. That's just too easy. Either you think we're some kind a ratbiters or you just enjoy spewing our brains. But that's jeg, just as long as we don't go stale.

And even though I'm stickin' to my clone theory, I figgered out who our hero really is. Look at the cover of issue #20 and decompile...keep lookin'...HOLY SHOCK! It's J. Jonah Jameson!

Adam Frey
480 Springfield Dr.
Southampton, PA 18966

That's the last time anybody prints a 2099 lexicon.

Dear *Voices*,

Once again, in issue #22, the question was raised as to whether the future shown in your 2099 books is the real Marvel future— and once again, you respond that it is, indeed, the "real" future.

Well, okay, except that elsewhere, you've shown us it can't be quite that simple. The dystopian 21st century of the Hulk's FUTURE IMPERFECT, the future of Kang, the separate 23rd centuries of Zarrko the Tomorrow Man, Thundra and Mahkizmo — all were real enough to affect the Marvel present. What does it mean then, to say that the future world of your 2099 titles is the "real" one? Okay, (deep breath)...

Quantum physics tells us that every possible outcome for any event must occur; even though we only see one. This is the scientific justification for so-called "parallel worlds" and works as well to indicate that for any point in time there is a branching tree of futures, all of which are real, but only one of which "we" (as opposed to "our" counterparts in other branches) experience. Thus, there is no one true future.

However, these alternative futures aren't equally probable, and in quantum physics probability is everything. We might speculate that the more probable a future (or alternate world) is, the easier it'd be to reach with a time machine. From this point of view, we might say that the world of the 2099 books represents the "mostly probable" 2099 of the Marvel Universe, as of the present.

Eric B. Upps
328 Van Duzer St.
Staten Island, NY 10304

This is another one of those letters that postulates that somewhere, in an alternate reality, Joey is editing Looney Tunes, and Lia is doing a signing of her novel at the City Lights Bookstore. Hmmm...now that you mention it...

Dear Voiceovers of Doom,

I knew Doom would journey to Myrdia to investigate L'Argent's claims, but I never suspected he'd take over the whole country! This was perhaps the most perfectly executed conquest of Doom's life! It was a great way to put Valhalla to use. Having the General force Doom to be responsible for keeping him alive was a great twist!

The mystery Doom becomes more intriguing each issue. As more about him is revealed, it becomes apparent that he too has altered his armor. His mention of removing our Doom from the board and giving Latveria to Tiger Wylde interests me. Our Doom remembers chasing phantoms. Could these phantoms actually have been shadows like this mystery Doom? I look forward to the answers. Meantime, it's fun to guess.

Matt Kuhns
200 Cherry St.
Anamosa, IA 52205

Our sentiment exactly, Matt!

NEXT ISSUE

A funeral for a Poet. Then, Doom gathers his forces for a run at another, larger country. Can you guess? Be here for "Barricades"!